4 Docket No.: 1999P1778

2813

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Date: January 4, 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applic. No.

10/002,925

Confirmation No: 5108

Applicant

Andreas Kux et al.

Filed Art Unit November 2, 2001 2813

Examiner

Nema O. Berezny

Docket No.

1999P1778

Customer No.:

24131

RESPONSE

Hon. Commissioner for Patents

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated December 19, 2003, the following remarks are made:

In deference to the restriction requirement on pages 2 and 3 of the above-identified Office Action, applicants elect group II, claims 5-20, for prosecution at this time.

Applicants request a rejoinder under MPEP §821.04.

In view of the foregoing, the early issuance of an Action on the merits of claims 5-20 is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

For Applicants

WERNER H. STEMER REG. NO. 34,956

Date: January 14, 2004

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